

From: Larry Stanton/DC/USEPA/US
Sent: 2/9/2012 9:09:23 PM
To: Dennis Carney/R3/USEPA/US@EPA
CC: Ron Borsellino/R3/USEPA/US@EPA; Dana Tulis/DC/USEPA/US@EPA; Gilberto Irizarry/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject: Re: Dimock - Request for Ceiling Increase

Concur. Tito, we will need a hard copy record.

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----- Original Message -----

From: Dennis Carney
Sent: 02/09/2012 07:11 PM EST
To: Larry Stanton
Cc: Ron Borsellino; Dana Tulis; Gilberto Irizarry
Subject: Dimock - Request for Ceiling Increase

Purpose: The purpose of this email is to formally seek your concurrence on an increase to the project ceiling for the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site located in Susquehanna Co., PA. The increase proposed is for \$125,000 which would bring the total project ceiling to \$225, 000. Outlined below is the basis for this request.

Background: On January 19, 2012, Dana Tulis, acting on your behalf concurred on an Action Memorandum (Memo) to take actions at the Dimock Residential Groundwater Site including the provision of bulk and bottled water to 4 homes. The Action Memo, which I subsequently signed, also on January 19, 2012, also included sampling at approximately 61 homes. After both PADEP and Cabot declined offers to provide alternate water to the four homes, the OSC used a regional ERRS contractor to provide the bulk and bottled water and to support command post logistical support activities. Initial estimates were that the original project ceiling would be sufficient for approximately one month. During the course of providing water, several unexpected items also arose. One was the higher usage of water than originally expected by some residents. The other item was the requirement for some plumbing services to switch some homes from well usage back to water buffaloes. At the current time the OSC is closely approaching his project ceiling and expects that he will reach his ceiling over the coming weekend. At that point without sufficient funding authorization the OSC would need to discontinue the provision of alternate water.

Over the past three weeks, the OSC has initiated an aggressive and extensive sampling and analytical program which by February 14, 2012 will have included approximately 58 homes. To the extent practicable the home well sampling was performed in accordance with priorities established by the OSC and documented in the Action Memo. Those priorities were in order: the four homes receiving alternate water, an additional 4 homes who had lost access to donated water, the balance of homes within the properties covered by the PADEP/Cabot consent order and then all other homes that had been identified for potential sampling. While we have fast-tracked the analysis of sampling data for select parameters we do not at this point have complete, validated results for all parameters at any particular home, including the four receiving alternate water. Therefore, we are not in a position at this time to make an appropriate, scientific determination on halting the provision of alternate water. Discontinuing alternate water at this time will result in a situation where homeowners may once again be forced to consume and use home well water of uncertain quality, and which the Agency has previously determined presents health concern.

Conclusion: A project ceiling increase of \$1250,000 bringing the total project ceiling to \$225,000 would enable the OSC to continue to provide alternate water to the original four homes for approximately one additional month. Furthermore, the OSC is also planning to switch some homes to larger 1000 gallon water buffalo tanks to allow for a more efficient bulk water delivery, deal with potential weather issues affecting water delivery and immediately realize a cost savings to the government. During that time the Region anticipates having all its analytical results for the four homes. At that point the Region would expect to be able to make appropriate determinations on further actions at these four homes, including whether it is scientifically appropriate to halt or continue alternate water at those homes.

Overall, it is noted that the last scheduled home well samples from the round of sampling outlined in the Action Memo will be collected on February 14, 2012. Beyond that there will be a few remaining homes where those samples will be collected in March 2012. These are homes where residents are on vacation or otherwise not available until that time. For the homes sampled through February 14th and allowing approximately 5 weeks for the receipt of validated results for the full suite of sample parameters, we expect to have all sampling data by late March.

Costs: With your concurrence on the proposed ceiling increase, the total project ceiling will breakout as noted below.

	Current	Proposed
ERRS	\$85,000	\$200,000
START	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000
Contingency	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$ 15,000</u>
Total	\$100,000	\$225,000

Please advise if we need to discuss this request.

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